

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/000481

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. 7: C01B 13/36; C01C 1/18, 1/28; C01F 1/00, 5/00, 5/14, 5/16, 5/20, 7/00, 7/34; C01G 1/00, 49/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

WPAT, USPTO, CAPLUS, esp@ce: hydrotalcite or layered double hydroxide and nitrate

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,728,364 A (MARTIN et al.) 17 March 1998 Whole document	1-20
A	US 5,776,424 A (MARTIN et al.) 7 July 1998 Whole document	1-20
A	US 5,079,203 A (THOMAS et al.) 7 January 1992 Whole document	1-20



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C



See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search
12 May 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report
17 MAY 2004

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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:

because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 21-30

because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

The components of the plant have only been defined in terms of the portion of the process which takes place therein. This provides inadequate definition for searching the plant. It would appear that the components of the plant are commonplace and only the use in the process of the invention would distinguish them from the prior art.

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:

because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.

2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report				Patent Family Member			
US	5728364	AU	15593/95	AU	15594/95	BR	9507557
		BR	9508872	CA	2189020	CA	2197664
		CZ	9603162	CZ	9700469	EP	0759888
		EP	0776317	HU	75979	HU	77873
		IL	114953	SK	21197	SK	139596
		US	5514361	US	5578286	US	5728363
		US	5728365	US	5728366	US	5730951
		US	5776424	WO	9529874	WO	9605140
US	5079203	CA	2063731	CN	1056827	EP	0484495
		EP	0550415	IE	911241	WO	9118670
Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.							
END OF ANNEX							